

Selway/Elk City/Red River Complex

Southern Area Red Team

****Fire Information Office, 877-367-9503****

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Hours of Operation: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Facebook: Selway Complex 2015
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Friday, September 11, 2015

8:00 AM

Background

The Baldy and Wash fires were caused by lightning strikes on August 10th and 13th. The Crown, Lone Park, Little Green, and Noble fires were caused by lightning strikes on August 17. The Baldy, Crown, Lone Park, Little Green, and Noble fires are in the Red River Ranger District, and the Wash fire is in the Moose Creek Ranger District of the Nez Perce - Clearwater National Forest. All of these fires are being reported under the Selway Complex. With dry conditions, gusty winds, steep terrain, and a shortage of firefighting resources due to multiple fire starts, the fires quickly grew. Fires are expected to be active until a significant, season-ending weather event occurs, which may not occur until mid/late October.

Fire:	Acreage:	
Wash	36,479	
Baldy	6,879	
Noble*	40,515	Containment:
Selway Complex 2015	Total acres= 83,873	9%

^{*}Noble fire acreage includes acreage from Crown, Lone Park, and Little Green fires.

Yesterday's Events

Wash Fire: Firefighters hot-spotted and secured line on and around the northwest corner of the Wash Fire. Began rehab on the Anderson Butte National Recreation Trail.

Baldy Fire: Crews continued to mitigate hot areas close to containment lines. Hose lays and some structure protection were removed from the Newsome Creek area.

Noble Fire: Mop up and cold trailing continued around the Mallard Creek and Cook Ranches. Firefighters constructed direct handline along the west flank, also utilizing helicopter bucket drops to slow fire growth.

Planned Events

Wash fire: Continue direct line, hot spotting, cold trailing. Crews will advance with rehab on Anderson Butte National Recreation Trail.

Baldy fire: Continue mop up and containment of spot fires north of the 1855 road. Continue cold trailing and hot spotting from 284 south to Pilot Knob Lookout along with removal of structure protection from Newsome Creek area.

Noble fire: Fully open the Magruder corridor (Montana Road). Mop up around the Mallard Creek and Cook Ranches. Road clearing for 100-foot wide fuel break on the 9550, and 9560 roads from the Red Mailbox to the Montana Road. Construct direct line where feasible along the fire edge.

Restrictions and Closures

An area closure for lands north and south of the Selway corridor has been lifted, and replaced with more site-specific road and trail closures. This allows access to multiple game units including 16, 16A and 17. For more information please call (208)-926-4258.

Fire restrictions remain lifted for all lands managed by the Nez Perce – Clearwater National Forests. Recreationists are able to build warming fires outside of designated recreation areas. All backcountry airstrips are open.

The Magruder Corridor Road remains an area of concern and will be intermittently closed due to work crews removing debris from the roadside.

Evacuations

The Evacuation Alert remains lifted for all fire areas except Mallard Creek and Cook Ranches, which were lowered from Level 3 to Level 2. (A Level 2 Evacuation means be ready. This level indicates there is significant danger to your area, and residents should either voluntarily relocate to a shelter or with family/friends outside of the affected area, or if choosing to remain, to be ready at a moment's notice.)

Fire Weather

The warmer and drier weather will continue into the weekend. The southern end of the Complex is expected to have poor night time humidity recovery. A change to this warm and dry pattern may occur late this weekend and through much of next week, bringing increased winds and humidity along with more seasonable temperatures.